<u>CLAIM AMENDMENTS</u>

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving an electronic indication of an inventory allocation;

completing a plurality of on-line sales transactions against said allocation; and

in response to the depletion of said allocation, automatically requesting <u>an</u> additional inventory allocation.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further including maintaining a count of available inventory allocation and decrementing said count as each on-line transaction is completed.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving an electronic indication of an inventory allocation includes receiving said inventory allocation from a remote site.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving an electronic indication of an inventory allocation includes receiving said allocation over a network.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein receiving an electronic indication of an inventory allocation includes receiving said allocation over the Internet.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein requesting an <u>additional</u> ~~electronic indication of~~ inventory allocation includes determining whether the inventory allocation needs to be replenished.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether the inventory allocation needs to be replenished includes determining whether an inventory allocation has been reduced through the completion of on-line transactions below a preset level.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether the inventory allocation needs to be replenished includes determining the rate at which on-line transactions are being completed and implementing a dynamic calculation that considers the rate at which on-line transactions are being completed.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8 including utilizing the rate at which transactions are completed and the rate at which additional inventory is to be requested to determine whether the inventory allocation needs to be replenished.

10.   (Currently Amended) An article comprising a medium for storing instructions that enable a computer to:

receive an electronic indication of an inventory allocation;

complete a plurality of on-line sales transactions against said allocation; and

in response to the depletion of said allocation, automatically request an additional ~~dedicated~~ inventory allocation.

11.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 10 further storing instructions that enable a computer to maintain a count of available inventory allocation and decrement said count as each on-line transaction occurs.

12.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 10 further storing instructions that enable a computer to receive an inventory allocation from a remote site.

13.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 10 further storing instructions that enable a computer to receive said allocation over a network.

14.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable a computer to receive said allocation over the Internet.

15.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 10 further storing instructions that enable a computer to determine whether to request an additional inventory allocation based on the number of on-line sales transactions completed against said allocation.

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16. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15 further storing instructions that enable a computer to determine whether the inventory allocation has been reduced below a preset level.

17. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15 further storing instructions that enable a computer to implement a dynamic calculation that considers the rate at which on-line transactions are being completed.

18. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17 further storing instructions that enable a computer to utilize the rate at which transactions are completed and the rate at which additional inventory is to be requested to determine whether the inventory allocation needs to be replenished.

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a server that completes a plurality of on-line sales transactions against an electronic indication of an inventory allocation;

a memory coupled to said server that stores said ~~electronic indication of said~~ inventory allocation; and

said server decrements said ~~electronic indication of said~~ inventory allocation with each on-line sales transaction, monitors the ~~electronic indication of~~ inventory allocation and automatically requests an additional ~~electronic indication of~~ inventory allocation.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein said server is coupled to the Internet and completes transactions over the Internet.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19 wherein said server dynamically determines when to request an additional inventory allocation based at least in part on the rate at which transactions are being completed.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21 wherein said server requests an additional inventory allocation based at least in part on a predetermined frequency for requests for an additional inventory allocation.

23.   (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

providing an electronic allocation of an inventory allocation to an on-line sales transaction service;

receiving a request from said on-line sales transaction service for an additional inventory allocation; and

providing said on-line sales transaction service with an additional inventory allocation.

24.   (Original) A method of claim 23 further including providing a frequency for requests for additional allocation.

25.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 23 including providing the indication of an inventory allocation over the Internet.

26.   (Currently Amended) An article comprising a medium that stores instructions that enable a computer to:

provide an electronic indication of an inventory allocation to an on-line sales transaction service;

receive a request from said on-line sales transaction service for an additional inventory allocation; and

provide said on-line sales transaction service with an additional inventory allocation in response to said request.

27.   (Currently Amended) The article of claim 26 further storing instructions that enable a computer to provide a frequency for requests for an additional inventory allocation.

28.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 26 further storing instructions that enable a computer to provide said inventory allocation over the Internet.

29.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a server; and

a storage storing software that causes said server to provide an electronic indication of an inventory allocation to an on-line sales transaction service, receive a request from said on-line sales transaction service for an additional inventory allocation, and provide an additional inventory allocation to said on-line sales transaction service.

30.   (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein said server is coupled to the Internet.